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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

~~Aspects of embodiments of the present disclosure include a~~ A highly available database cluster that ~~can~~ maintains a connection with potentially geographically remote client application programs, including non-fault tolerant application programs, even in the event of ~~one of the~~ ~~a~~ database management system systems (DBMS) of the cluster becoming unavailable. For example, the database cluster can advantageously move a client connection between a failing, unbalanced, or overloaded DBMS, to another DBMS within the cluster. The database cluster can include connection managers that monitor a connection between a client application program and a primary DBMS. When one connection manager determines that the primary DBMS is unavailable, the connection manager of a secondary DBMS can assume the connection to the client application as if it were the primary DBMS. The connection manager can finish all open transactions, thereby avoiding the need to roll back the same. Moreover, the connection managers can monitor the connection at the DBMS communication level such as, for example, the SQL*Net level.